

Mr. NICKLES. I thank my colleague.

(The remarks of Mr. GRAHAM pertaining to the introduction of S. 2278 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. GORTON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, yesterday the majority leader of the Senate, Senator LOTT, the senior Senator from New Jersey, Mr. TORRICELLI, and a number of other Senators, myself included, introduced a resolution reaffirming our commitment to the right of self-determination on the part of the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan. We did so in shock at the seeming abandonment of those people by the President of the United States on his trip to mainland China. The resolution was referred to the Foreign Relations Committee, and I hope will be reported back favorably and promptly for debate and passage by the Senate of the United States.

For decades it has been the policy of the United States to call for all of the relationships between the people and government on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China to be peaceful. It has been our policy that the people of Taiwan should be permitted to determine their own future, much of which has now been undercut by President Clinton's overwhelming desire for approval on the part of a still Communist dictatorship in mainland China.

In fact, Mr. President, on his trip to China and in the policies immediately preceding that trip, the President of the United States has managed to impose sanctions on the world's most populous democracy, India, for its natural reaction to our assistance to the missile capabilities of the People's Republic of China; has managed to impose sanctions on Pakistan which is greatly harmful to the economy of the United States because of Pakistan's natural reaction to India's nuclear test; has insulted and weakened the people of Japan, a long-time and vitally impor-

tant democratic ally of the United States, by a refusal to visit Japan on this trip to East Asia; and has undercut one of the most vital democracies anywhere in the world, and particularly East Asia on Taiwan.

As the Washington Post's editors wrote on July 2, and I quote:

Mr. Clinton has sided with the dictators against the democrats.

It seems vital to me that we should reaffirm our commitment to the rights of self-determination on the part of the people of Taiwan, and encourage them on the successful path they have now traveled for almost half a century.

Mr. President, at the end of the Chinese civil war, when the nationalists were left only with an outpost on Taiwan, a group of Chinese began a separate existence with almost no promise of a bright future, poverty stricken on an island that had just emerged from half a century of Japanese imperialism, threatened by the overwhelming armed force of mainland China, without natural resources, with nothing to sustain them but the brilliance and dedication and the hard-working nature of the Chinese people on Taiwan, and an absolute commitment to their own freedom.

They have been perhaps the most successful example of what can happen to a people who are dedicated to the ideals that have moved the United States since its founding.

On Taiwan, the Chinese people first created a magnificently successful economy—an economy so successful that to this day they purchase more American goods and services than does all of mainland China, and following immediately upon that economic success the creation of a life and vibrant democratic system of government. Where under such threat in the entire world do we see anything remotely similar? Perhaps in Israel, perhaps in Israel under a similar threat from the outside, but I think, Mr. President, nowhere else in the world have we seen such a magnificent success in the building of a free and successful economy and a free and successful democracy.

It seems to me, Mr. President, that it should be our policy in the future that

we laud and support that degree of success, that we encourage the Chinese on the mainland to follow that example rather than impliedly tell the people in Taiwan they must follow the example of the mainland.

We as Americans simply cannot abandon those free people on Taiwan. We must clearly indicate to mainland China that it cannot attempt to solve its differences with them by the use of force. We must clearly indicate to mainland China that the people of Taiwan must be in charge of determining their own future. We can, of course, hope for one China, but a one China that has institutions and is created in a fashion that respects the views, the desire for continued freedom, on the part of the people of Taiwan.

How it is that we have managed because of deterioration in our relationship with four democratic nations in east and south Asia without gaining anything of substance, of any real substance in our relationship with China, is beyond my power to explain. But at this point a mild resolution totally consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act passed by this Senate, reaffirming our support for the freedom and rights of self-determination of the people of Taiwan, is, I believe, the minimum we can do to make up for the disastrous remarks of President Clinton on his trip to China.

I repeat, I hope that the Foreign Relations Committee will report this bipartisan resolution promptly, that it will be passed by both the Senate and the House of Representatives. Only in that fashion can we show our dedication for the cause of a country that has followed our leadership, adopted our ideals, and deserves our support.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in adjournment until 9 a.m. tomorrow morning.

Thereupon, at 7:31 p.m., the Senate adjourned until 9 a.m. Thursday, July 9, 1998, at 9 a.m.